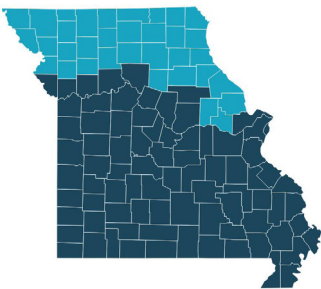


# NORTH REGION

## MISSOURI CAREER GRADES

### JANUARY 2025



Career Grades are a tool to help make comparisons between occupations. Each occupation is assigned a letter grade from A+ to F based on its outlook over the next decade. Grades are based on a combination of projected total job openings, projected percent growth, and current average wages. Occupations with a grade of A or A+ have above average results in at least two of the three variables, while occupations with a grade of B or B+ have above average results in at least one of the three variables.

The North region is projected to have more than 21,400 annual job openings through 2032. The vast majority (93%) of these openings are in A, B, and C grade occupations. In general, higher graded occupations have higher wages and growth rates. Grade A occupations earn an average wage that is 56 percent higher than the average wage for all occupations in the region in 2023 (\$50,159).

#### Annual Job Openings and Wages by Career Grades

Grade A	Grade B	Grade C
955 Job Openings \$78,445 Average Wage	15,021 Job Openings \$50,584 Average Wage	3,956 Job Openings \$41,402 Average Wage

#### Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Projected to have the most annual total job openings

**over 2,400**

#### Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Most grade A and B annual openings

**over 2,100**

#### Transportation & Material Moving Occupations

Grade A and B Jobs Concentration

**94%**

#### Top Outlook Occupation Groups

Major Occupation Group	Total Openings	A & B Openings	A & B Concentration
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	2,473	2,179	88%
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	2,461	1,664	68%
Sales and Related Occupations	2,397	2,174	91%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	2,375	2,232	94%
Production Occupations	2,168	1,413	65%
Healthcare Support Occupations	1,290	1,140	88%
Management Occupations	1,283	1,199	93%
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	1,047	804	77%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	750	668	89%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	748	575	77%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	744	495	67%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	671	521	78%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	638	571	89%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	622	302	49%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	544	435	80%

## North Region Top Grade Jobs

### Now

Typically requires short-term on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B	Cashiers 🔥	1,245	-2.5%	\$28,739
B+	Home Health and Personal Care Aides 🔥	741	7.6%	\$31,428
B	Stockers and Order Fillers 🔥	659	5.2%	\$37,073
B	Retail Salespersons 🔥	508	-1.2%	\$34,856
B	Office Clerks, General	474	2.1%	\$40,903
B	Waiters and Waitresses 🔥	433	-1.0%	\$35,104
B	Cooks, Fast Food	407	-1.4%	\$28,402
B	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand 🔥	398	5.1%	\$36,923
B	Fast Food and Counter Workers 🔥	367	-2.8%	\$28,678
B	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners 🔥	357	4.7%	\$34,266

### Next

Typically requires non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate- to long-term training

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B+	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers 🔥	394	2.1%	\$49,613
B+	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators 🔥	367	10.2%	\$46,856
B	Nursing Assistants 🔥	293	-4.2%	\$34,788
B+	Cooks, Restaurant 🔥	233	-1.5%	\$32,584
B+	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General 🔥	218	1.8%	\$48,316
B	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	196	2.2%	\$33,839
B	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers 🔥	188	-1.1%	\$37,633
B	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers 🔥	175	-2.4%	\$45,225
B+	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	166	4.2%	\$43,641
B	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	158	2.9%	\$42,893

### Later

Typically requires a bachelor's degree or higher

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A	General and Operations Managers 🔥	452	2.1%	\$85,651
A	Registered Nurses 🔥	204	1.4%	\$73,076
B+	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	185	2.0%	\$51,032
B+	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education 🔥	155	2.1%	\$56,860
B	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	119	2.5%	\$39,102
B+	Accountants and Auditors	86	3.9%	\$68,439
B	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	65	2.0%	\$57,380
B	Human Resources Specialists 🔥	60	4.4%	\$60,088
A	Managers, All Other	50	1.6%	\$102,778
B	Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	42	2.6%	\$52,520

🔥 Flame icon indicates occupations with the top 20 online job postings in 2023 within NNL (Now, Next, Later) categories.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Lightcast™. Job opening and growth rate data is based on sum of published employment.

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